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Immediate Release

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Environment Department to Hold Meeting on Agricultural Burning in Clovis

(Santa Fe, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) will hold a public meeting on agricultural burning in Clovis at the Extension Building, Curry County Fairgrounds on April 30 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. This meeting will allow members of the public to comment on the Department's smoke management program.

NMED is currently preparing a smoke management program for all sources of fire, including agricultural burning, and would like to hear the views of people in the area. "We want this program to be fair to all people in New Mexico who burn," said Sandra Ely, Chief of NMED's Air Quality Bureau. "It is important to us that we develop a program that is simple and also protects air quality and visibility."

Ms. Ely will be presenting the draft smoke management program outline that has been developed by a group of New Mexico stakeholders over the past two months. Stakeholders who have assisted the Department with this project include the New Mexico Department of Agriculture, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the New Mexico State Forestry Division, the New Mexico Pecan Growers Association, and several federal land management agencies.

For further information, contact Rita Trujillo, NMED Air Quality Bureau, at (505) 955-8024, or Jon Goldstein, Communications Director, NMED at (505) 827-0314.

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